

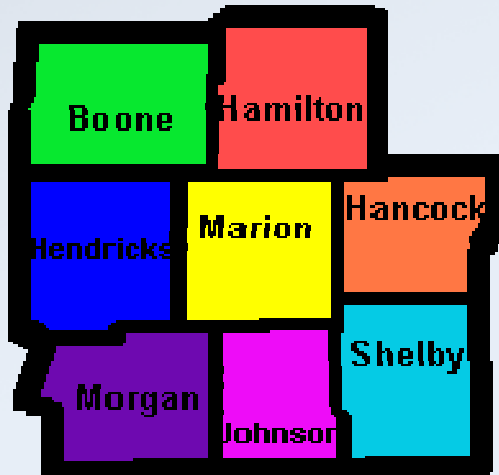


**Law Enforcement—Fire—EMS
Emergency Management
Health & Hospital
Search & Rescue
Training
Communications
Public Information
Hazardous Materials
Critical Infrastructure
Public-Private Partnerships**

Bryan Wolfe, Central Indiana District

News YOU Can Use

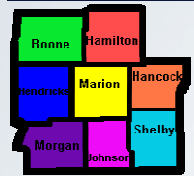
August 2009





News YOU Can Use

Central Indiana District Five
Bryan Wolfe - Coordinator



August 2009

Volume 09, Issue 4

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UASI – the NEW Urban Area

Marion County Emergency Management Director Jim White and Hamilton County Sheriff Doug Carter delivered a message recently to public safety officials in Hancock and Boone Counties – an invitation to participate in the Urban Area Strategic Initiative. White and Carter announced that they are inviting all agencies in the district an opportunity to participate in UASI through a new regional cooperative strategy. “It’s time for us to spread the wealth a little bit,” White stated. This invitation is a unique opportunity for agency heads to obtain additional funding for their agencies. White told the group that lessons learned from the past have shown that we need to learn to “play in the sandbox together.” Sheriff Carter discussed how it’s a new day and a new paradigm, and urged participants to think about ways in which we can all connect together – not in terms of “things,” but rather in terms of “problems” that can be solved. White and Carter conceded that there had been some bad decisions made in the past which resulted in exclusion, but they uniformly preached a message stating that agencies who wish to participate

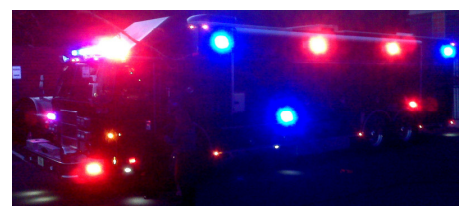
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Central Indiana District Five Command Vehicle Display

On August 26, 2009 at 1000 hours, all of the Communications Units/Command Posts in Region 5 will be brought to the Indiana Government Center. The purpose of this gathering is to evaluate the capabilities of each unit and begin planning how these units will be used in conjunction with each other at a significant incident. This will also allow for long term planning on newer units that could be ordered by

agencies in the future. One of the ideas that have been discussed in the past would be support type units that would provide interoperability between units on the scene rather than purchasing extremely expensive communications packages for each van/command post. The date for this meeting is August 26th at 1000 hours on the Drive between the Indiana Government Center North and South build-

ings. Outside Agencies and EMAs are invited to attend. The information gathered at this meeting will be used as part of the District Communications Plan.



2009 Indiana Emergency Response Conference

The conference will take place August 19th – 22nd at the Indiana Convention Center in Downtown Indianapolis. **Despite the new name, this is the IFCA Conference.** Make sure you plan to join all of your colleagues as together we kick off the greatest conference in our state for all of Indiana's Fire and EMS personnel during the opening ceremony at **8:00am on Thursday August 20th.** Following some inspirational comments by all of our leadership, we will begin our educational tracks with General Session speaker, **Gordon Graham.** Mr. Graham is a world recognized speaker in both private and public sector organizations. Also speaking at the conference will be famed Hollywood actor, **Randolph Mantooth.**

Registration is available online this year! Please visit our **Online Registration Site** at <https://www.conference.com/eventmanager/online/registration.asp?eventcode=KT6> to complete your registration form. **Online Registration ends Wednesday, August 12th.** Special lodging rates are available at the 5-star Conrad Hotel in downtown Indianapolis!

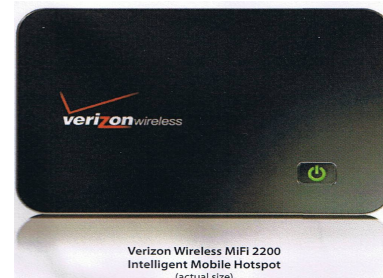
FIRE SERVICE

EDUCATIONAL TRACKS: Fire Management: Badges to Bugles, Grant Writing, How to Develop an SROVT, Labor Management Issues, Consolidation, Local Budgets, Blue Card NIMS Compliant Hazard Zone Mgmt, DNR Forestry, Residential Sprinklers, Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, ISO Draft Concept IFA: IFA Retiree Program, The Death of a Hero
IVFA: Team Building Technical Rescue: Technical Rescue Update, Trench Rescue, Structural Collapse Concepts, INTF-1 & Regional Interaction w/ TRT's, SUSAR Fire Inspectors: Overview of the General Admin Rules, Overview of Fireworks Inspections, Overview of School Inspections, Overview of Healthcare Inspections HazMat: OSHA Concerns and HazMat, Ethanol Response and FD Interface, Fire Department Safety Concerns and Meth Labs, Radiation Emergency Response, HazMat Awareness for EMS Fire Instructor: Instructor Round-Up, Instructor Liabilities, & much, much more! See you there!

Verizon offers new Compact Wireless Router Solution

Imagine a small black rectangular shaped piece of plastic with one button on it. The entire device is the size of a business card. Push the button, and in three seconds, up to five computers have securable wireless internet access at a range of 3,000 square feet. There is no need to imagine this technological marvel, because as of July 2009 it is now available. With prices comparable to that of standard wireless air cards, this little device's battery is designed to stay operable for four hours before having to be plugged in. The Verizon Wireless MiFi 2200 Intelligent Mobile Hotspot was truly impressive. This fascinating technological gem was recently displayed with several dozen other pieces of the "latest and greatest" at the Mobile Technology Exposition held in Carmel on Monday, August 27, 2009.

(Picture not to scale, but fairly close!)



Sprint-Nextel Ready to Assist Even Non-Customers...

Did You Know?

Sprint-Nextel has an Emergency Response Group (ERG) standing by and ready to assist public safety agencies anywhere in the country with critical needs. This service is available not only to current Sprint-Nextel customers, but to all public safety agencies. The Sprint-Nextel ERG provides equipment, personnel, and infrastructure to agencies in need. The ERG maintains a stock of 40,000 spare batteries for long

-term incidents where electricity is unavailable. They have several Cellular Tower-on-wheels, Satellite trucks (SAT-Colts) on Ford E-650 Super Duty chassis, and mobile Internet Satellite broadcast trailers. They have 25,000 handheld phones, data devices, and air cards ready at all times. They have participated in 35 Presidential Disasters, 100 Field Training Exercises, 20 National Security Special Events, and 50+ "Major Events." Items in need can be shipped quickly from

storage cache's located in Dulles VA, Orlando FL, or Grand Prairie TX.

To avoid shipping problems, the popular "Go-Kits" are also available.

The Sprint-Nextel Emergency Response Group can be contacted by calling 1-888-639-0020, or GETS Users can call 1-254-295-2220 to be connected.

Wanted: EMS Commission Technical Advisory Committee Members

Currently, the Indiana EMS Commission is taking applications for fourteen (14) vacancies on the Technical Advisory Committee. Applications to be considered for appointment MUST be received by August 20, 2009 at 1630 hours EST and should be submitted via email to ssigler@dhs.in.gov with the subject line of "Technical Advisory Committee application". When attaching the completed application form, please save and send your application with the file attachment named by your first name last name EMS TAC application. Example: John Doe EMS TAC application.

The vacancies on the Technical Advisory Committee are as follows:

One (1) Chief Operating Officer (COO) of an Urban/Suburban EMS Agency/Provider

One (1) Chief Operating Officer (COO) of a Rural EMS Agency/Provider

One (1) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of an Urban/Suburban EMS Agency/Provider
One (1) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a Rural EMS Agency/Provider

One (1) Emergency Department Director of an Urban/Suburban hospital

One (1) Emergency Department Director of a Rural hospital

One (1) EMS Medical Director of an Urban/Suburban EMS Agency/Provider

One (1) EMS Medical Director of Rural EMS Agency/Provider

Four (4) Program Directors of Advanced Life Support (ALS) Training Institutions

One (1) Program Director of a Basic Life Support (BLS) Training Institution

One (1) Trainer of First Responders

Once the completed application forms are received and reviewed by the Indiana EMS Commission, persons selected for appointment will be contacted by a representative of the Commission. Technical Advisory Committee members are subject to approval by the Governor. Length of appointment and rules for reappointment will be released at a later date.

Appointed committee members are eligible to receive a \$50.00 honorarium for each officially sanctioned Technical Advisory Committee meeting attended, in addition to round trip mileage reimbursement from their home base of operation at the current rate of \$0.40/mile. For further information regarding this opportunity, please contact Julia Fox at jfox@dhs.in.gov or call her at (317) 605-8101.



The **Star of Life** is a blue, six-pointed star, outlined with a white border which features the Rod of Asclepius in the center, originally designed and governed by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) (under the United States Department of Transportation, DOT). Traditionally in the United States the logo was used as a stamp of authentication or certification for ambulances, paramedics or other EMS personnel. Internationally, it represents emergency medical services (EMS) units and personnel. A similar orange star is used for search and rescue personnel and yet another version is used for Wilderness emergency medical technician.

Joint ISDH + IDHS H1N1 Summary Update Release

Indiana State Department of Health

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

H1N1 Summary Update as of 7/31/09

The Novel H1N1 Influenza virus is still provoking severe illness

and fatalities in a generally younger population, and cases are expected to increase in the fall. Influenza viruses are unpredictable, so the symptoms and severity of the disease may change. Therefore, the extent of the challenges we will face in the weeks and months ahead is unknown, but communication and flexibility will be crucial to accomplishing our mission of slowing and limiting the spread of

H1N1.

This summer, the United States has seen high attack rates of illness and hospitalization in younger adults and children, with relatively limited illness or serious consequences in the elderly. In the Southern Hemisphere, currently in the early phase of their flu season, H1N1 is co-circulating with seasonal influenza in some

countries, and is dominating in others. There also, it is infecting the younger population and sparing the elderly, though the spectrum of disease appears to be the same as in the U.S.

Symptoms:

Influenza-like-illness is defined as fever (temperature of 100°F/ 37.8°C or greater) and a cough, and/or a sore throat in the absence of a known cause other than influenza.

People experiencing influenza-like-illness are encouraged to call their doctor if they have a chronic illness or are pregnant, or if they have difficulty breathing, chest pain, confusion, or persistent vomiting.

Transmission:

Large droplet transmission is confirmed, and occurs when respiratory droplets generated from the source person are transferred to another person primarily during coughing, sneezing, or talking.

Small droplet, fecal/oral

transmission is unconfirmed, but remains a possibility.

Aerosol spread of influenza virus is dependant upon both ambient relative humidity and temperature.

While both cold and dry conditions favor transmission, Oregon researchers found a significant correlation between "absolute" humidity and influenza virus survival and transmission. When absolute humidity is low—as in the peak flu months of January and February—the virus appears to survive longer and transmission rates increase. (Transmission 50%, up from 12%, and survival 90%, up from 36%).

However, H1N1 is probably in the U.S. during the summer NOT due to better transmission properties, but because it is a novel virus, so more people are susceptible and fewer have immunity.

Incubation period is 2 to 7 days; and the infected person may become contagious anywhere from 1 day before, to 7 days after

Wishard's 2010 Paramedic Program

Wishard Health Services is accepting applications for the 2010 Paramedic Science Program. Classes are held from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. The course has been constructed to repeat subject matter in a section or shift-accommodating manner to make attendance convenient for EMS and fire department personnel. There will be a mandatory information session on August 3, 4, or 5th at 1800 hours; the meeting will be located at 3930 Georgetown Road in the Wishard Health Services EMS Headquarters in the Education Center. Interested persons should call (317) 630-7427 to reserve a seat in an information session, or for further information, call Leon Bell at lbell1@iupui.edu.

(Continued from page 5)

the onset of symptoms.

Vaccine:

Novel H1N1 vaccine is being procured by the U.S. government from five vaccine manufacturers.

The seasonal influenza vaccine should be available earlier than the novel H1N1 vaccine, but the availability of the two vaccines is expected to overlap, very tentatively beginning around mid-October.

A maximum of 160 million doses may become available from the five manufacturers over approximately a one month period. Approximately two doses of inactivated licensed novel H1N1, created from dead viruses and available in **multi-dose vials**, will be needed per person, with 21 to 28 days between the first and second dose.

A limited number of inactivated licensed novel H1N1 vaccines in **single-dose syringes** will be largely reserved for young children, and pregnant women.

Inhaler sprayers with live attenuated vaccine, vaccines containing weakened forms of the organism that causes the disease, will also be available in very limited quantities.

Neither the single-dose syringes nor inhaler sprays contain the preservative thimerosal which some people suggest is linked to mental problems in children.

The government will be offering the vaccine and ancillary supplies including syringes, needles, sharp containers, and alcohol swabs at no cost. Gloves and band aids will

UASI (continued from Page 1)

will have a seat and voice at the table. UASI planners are currently gearing up for the 2010 grant cycle year, which must be submitted in February. Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, and Hancock Counties can expect Director White and Sheriff Carter to deliver their message to your areas in the August to September timeframes. If you are an agency head who wishes to become involved in the Indianapolis UASI, contact

Director Jim White by calling 317-327-7503.

“The question is, do you want to be a part of the Indianapolis UASI?”

**- Marion County EMA
Director Jim White**

NOT be provided.

Indiana will allocate the state's proportion to each Local Health District (LHD) by county population.

Vaccine Monitoring:

Vaccine testing thus far suggests a safe product. However, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) requires reporting within 48 hours of vaccination on the number of doses administered and the ages of persons vaccinated as such data are critical for assessing early uptake and for adverse event monitoring.

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) serves as the foundation for safety monitoring. VAERS accepts reports from patients, providers, public health officials, and others. Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

Epidemiologists will be monitoring and investigating any reported adverse events related to H1N1 vaccination. VAERS reporting information is currently available on <http://chirp.in.gov> and <http://vaers.hhs.gov>.

Target Populations:

Of the 43,771 U.S. cases, 291 are reported confirmed in Indiana. Of those 291 Indiana cases, 74% are patients age 18 and under, 40% have asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and 70% have chronic medical conditions (immune deficiencies, obesity, pregnancy, and smoking). However, fatal H1N1 virus infections have occurred among persons without these conditions who were previously healthy.

Continued on Page 8...

Calendar of Events



August 3, 4, or 5: Mandatory Meeting for Anyone attending the Wishard 2010 Paramedic Program Course

August 10-12: IPSC Annual Communications Conference, Indianapolis

August 11-13: Basic Spanish for EMT's & Paramedics Training Course

August 12: Last day to register for the 2009 Indiana Emergency Response Conference

August 14: District Five District Planning Council Meeting (DPC)
Butler University Campus 10:00 AM
Precise location & Teleconference Number to be announced...

August 15: Multi-Lead Medics Course at Owen Valley High School

August 19-22: 2009 Indiana Emergency Response Conference
Indiana Convention Center

August 20: Deadline for EMS Commission Applications at 4:30 PM

August 26: Central Indiana District Command Vehicle Display at 10:00 AM between the Indiana Government Center buildings

September 24-27: IDHS Midwest Search & Rescue Conference at Camp Atterbury

EMS TRAINING:

Primary Instructor Course:

Hendricks Regional Health of 1000 E Main St, Danville, IN;
For more information, contact Kathi Mortensen at ksmorte@hendricks.org

Basic Spanish for EMT's & Paramedics

Public Safety Academy of NE Indiana
7602 Patriot Crossing
Fort Wayne, IN 46816
Tuesday, August 11, 2009- Thursday, August 13, 2009, 8:00 am- 4:30 pm
Registrations should be submitted online at: www.counterdrugtraining.com

Multi-Lead Medics - 12-lead ECG Interpretation for Acute & Critical Care Providers, presented by Author Bob Page on August 15, 2009: 0800-1630 @ Owen Valley High School Auditorium; To register, please contact Cris Lunsford at clunsford@ocems.net or 812-829-4446 ext 202

Check the IDHS website for many additional training opportunities!

<http://www.in.gov/dhs>

NATIONAL CREDENTIALING EMS EDUCATOR EXAM will be held on OCTOBER 23, 7-9PM at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis in WILE HALL, ROOM 530. There will be a Free Review Course on Friday, October 9th, 9am-2pm; interested persons should Register at www.naemse.org.

HELP WANTED:

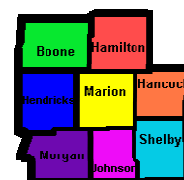
Clarian Health is seeking applicants for the position of EMS Education Program Director. This full time position is designated to oversee the daily operations of Clarian's EMT and Paramedic training programs as well as provide leadership and guidance to the EMS Education Department personnel. For requirements and additional information, please contact:

Greg Strine at gstrine@clarian.org



Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Central Indiana District Five
Bryan Wolfe - District Coordinator



Attention Fire Chiefs who utilize person(s) under the age of 18 for emergency response duties.

The following information is taken from two authorities on utilizing persons under the age of 18 for emergency response duties. This information can be used by fire department leadership in determining the role for these persons to be assigned during emergency response duties.

Limitations of persons under the age of 18 in performing under emergency operations per the Boy Scouts of America Explorer program:

- may not be substituted for trained personnel.
- must be equipped with personal protective equipment that is appropriate for the activity being done.
- may be mobilized only as a post, with required leadership.
- not on call as individuals.
- who ride on apparatus or other department vehicles must be seated and must wear a seat belt.
- may not drive department vehicles.
- may not climb aerial ladders.
- may not climb ground ladders that exceed 35 feet in length, or not supported against a structure.
- may not enter or perform ventilation procedures on a burning structure.
- may not use any tools or gloves on energized electrical equipment.
- may not operate cutting torches
- may not operate hydraulic rescue tools or equipment.
- may not handle life nets.

Exceptions: Using an official training facility, the use of aerial ladders with the appropriate safety equipment, and entering a controlled burn building is approved.

Junior Members under the age of 16 as published by VFIS MAY

- Perform tasks as allowed by state child labor laws.
- Perform non-hazardous duties at the fire station.

IDHS Midwest Search & Rescue Conference

The IDHS Midwest Search & Rescue Conference will be held September 24-27, 2009. Director Lillian Hardy has developed a full conference schedule of very interesting courses, including but not limited to:

Wilderness First Aid, Cadaver Search, Canine tracking & trailing, ICS 300, Rope Operations, Hazmat Awareness, Hazmat Operations, Land Navigation, Visual Tracking, Introduction

to GPS for Search & Rescue, Edible & Medicinal Plants of the Eastern U.S. Woodlands, New Technologies in Search & Rescue, Canine Legal Issues, Introduction to Cave Rescue, & Introduction to Mounted Search & Rescue.

Breakout session sizes are limited. Keep an eye on the IDHS website (www.in.gov/dhs) to register for the conference—online registration will be available soon!

○ Attend supervised training sessions, however, if the training is deemed hazardous by an instructor, the junior member should not participate. Respond to the station and help with any nonhazardous tasks at the station that are required for an incident.

Junior Members under the age of 16 as published by VFIS MAY NOT

- Perform hazardous duties at the station.
 - Ride in an apparatus responding to an emergency incident.
 - Be present at an active emergency incident.
 - Use any powered tools in a training session.
 - Fight fires or provide patient care at the incident scene.
- It also makes sense to provide guidelines for Junior Members at the emergency scene.**

VFIS suggests organizations implement the following:

Junior Members 16 and 17 years of age as published by VFIS MAY

- Operate equipment or perform tasks as allowed per child labor laws.

- Ride in cabs of apparatus as a passenger to emergency incidents.
- Attend and take part in supervised training activities.
- Participate (with proper protective clothing) in a rehabilitation area of an emergency scene that does not expose them to hazardous atmospheres.
- Enter a structure only when accompanied by an adult firefighter and only when deemed safe by the incident commander. Help to clean up at the incident scene after it has been declared safe.

Junior Members 16 and 17 years of age as published by VFIS MAY NOT

- Perform fire suppression activities.
- Drive any emergency vehicle during an emergency incident
- Respond directly to the scene of an incident.
- Respond to haz mat incidents.
- Perform overhaul activities except when structure has been declared safe.
- Use self-contained breathing apparatus except in supervised training. Participate in extrication activities, actual ice-rescue activities, or direct traffic at scene of an emergency.

Those at greatest risk from the H1N1 virus who will be targeted to receive the vaccine include:

Students and staff in K-12 schools (including children over 6 months and staff in child care facilities).

Health care workers and emergency service workers: EMT, law enforcement, firefighters, and first responders. Family members are NOT included as their inclusion would exponentially expand the target population. Pregnant Women (including children 6 months to 4 years not in daycare, new parents, and household contacts of children under 6 months).

Those under age 65 with chronic diseases (asthma, COPD, obesity, diabetes, other chronic conditions and immune deficiencies). People with asthma are especially susceptible to H1N1 influenza, and extremely obese patients have a higher prevalence of comorbid conditions that confer higher risk for influenza complications including chronic heart, lung, liver, and metabolic diseases.

Community Containment Options:

Both the ISDH and Local Health Officers may close schools, close churches, and forbid public gatherings (IC-16-19-3-10 and IC-16-20-1-24). However, officials must employ the least restrictive, medically necessary measures to protect public health.

Containment measures applied to individuals may have limited impact in preventing the transmission of H1N1 influenza due to the ability of persons with asymptomatic infection to transmit the virus. The CDC does NOT advise school dismissal for a suspected or confirmed case of Novel Influenza A (H1N1) and, in general, is not advised unless there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function.

Students, faculty or staff with influenza-like illness (fever with a cough or sore throat) should not attend school or go into the community, except to seek medical care, for at least 7 days even if symptoms resolve sooner.

Students, faculty and staff who appear to have an influenza-like illness on arrival, or who become ill during the day should be isolated promptly in a room separate from other students and sent home.

School administrators should communicate regularly with local public health officials to obtain guidance about reporting influenza-like-illness in the school.

Communication is Key:

Pay attention to the CDC and directives from the State Health Commissioner.

Be prepared for changing guidelines, and keep your staff abreast of issues and changes.

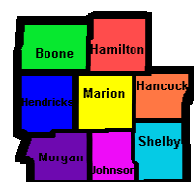
Be pro-active in your community with information, and work with local schools.

Health departments should have easily accessible information and contact information on their websites.



Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Central Indiana District Five
Bryan Wolfe - District Coordinator



A message for All Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics Instructors

From the desk of David Probo

IDHS Firefighter Training Section
Chief

The Indiana Firefighter Training System has completed the pilot program for the Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics course. This new program is completely different from the previous NFA course. I would like to thank the instructors and students who participated in the pilot courses and suffered through the challenges of pilot courses. Your input and suggestions were greatly appreciated and led to necessary changes that has improved the course being offered. I will continue to welcome feedback from courses being delivered in the future.

The new program uses the second edition Brady Strategic and Tactical Considerations on the Fireground manual. If you need books contact your District Chairman or Coordinator if the district books are currently being used contact me and I will see if I can locate books for you. I have put together a FOST Instructors Resource disk that has the curriculum, chapter quizzes, PowerPoint instructions for all the practical's and all the necessary forms. I will be delivering this disk to your districts in the next two weeks. The course practical's are conducted through the NFA website and each student must complete 4 of the 6 scenarios provided by the NFA and complete worksheets provided by the Indiana Firefighter Training System. These worksheets are to be turned in to the Lead Evaluator prior to the start of the final practical exam. If you or your students experience problems please contact me to see if they can be resolved. The final practical exam is a series of scenarios on PowerPoint. The Lead Evaluator selects one and

IDHS S&R K-9's have Pups!

IDHS Canine Search and Rescue Dogs Drake and Kailey are the proud parents of 6 healthy adorable pups born on July 2, 2009! The new Malinois, three girls, and three boys, will be UKC registered. Search & Rescue Director Lillian Hardy reports that they are starting to play more and she has had to move

them to a larger pen since they are not climbing out of the whelping box. We look forward to watching these guys grow up. Congratulations Lil!



follows the instructions provided on the slides and completes the evaluation form.

I am requesting that all instructors getting ready to teach your first FOST class contact me at least a week prior to the start to answer any questions and make sure you have what you need for course delivery. You can contact me by either the phone numbers or email address listed below.

David J. Probo

Firefighter Training Section Chief

Indiana Firefighter Training System

Ph# (317) 234-6589

Cell# (317) 508-9165

Email dprobo@dhs.in.gov

Personal Mission Statement:

"As your Central Indiana Homeland Security Coordinator, I will promulgate the messages of preparedness and prevention and facilitate the timely exchange of shared information. I will work to support and enhance both local and state public safety capabilities, while maintaining unprecedented teamwork as I partner with all levels of constituents, both public and private, to achieve a safe and secure Indiana."

- Bryan Wolfe



New study shows that sprinkler requirements are not detrimental to housing starts

A recently completed research report concluded that the presence of sprinkler ordinances has no negative impact on the number of homes being built. In fact, in the comparison of two sets of counties, the municipalities actually saw an increase in construction in the year after regulations became effective, compared to the adjacent counties without sprinkler ordinances.

Conducted by Newport Partners, *Comparative Analysis of Housing Cost and Supply Impacts of Sprinkler Ordinances at the Community Level* compared residential construction in suburban Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties, Maryland, and Montgomery County, Maryland, and Fairfax County, Virginia. Prince George's County and Montgomery County have sprinkler requirements; Fairfax County and Anne Arundel County do not. The counties were selected based on their demographic matches.

NFPA Fire Sprinkler Initiative UPDATE

Newport Partner's analysis was based on an extensive review of annual single-family building permits, the U.S. Census Bureau Surveys of Housing and Households, and analysis of local documents before and after sprinkler requirements were imposed. In addition, Newport conducted interviews with builders, trade association staff, and local government officials to provide insight into the housing landscape in these counties pre- and post-requirements. According to the report, "None of the statistical or interview information demonstrated that the requirements led to reduced housing supply."

NIMS in Court

New York State's second highest court ruled that the failure to follow NIMS may serve as a basis for liability, as it "mandates a reasonably defined and precedentially developed standard of care, and does not require the fact's Trier to 'second-guess [a firefighter's] split-second

weighing of choices.' "

This surprising ruling means that first responders and their paid or volunteer agencies may be held liable for failing to adhere to those mandatory NIMS requirements. Although in this case the lawsuit was brought by a firefighter's wife, most states do not prohibit a citizen from suing a fire department. Whether the suit is brought by a firefighter, a firefighter's family member, or an injured civilian, the concern is the same:

Failing to follow portions of NIMS can lead to the loss of a lawsuit.

**Special thanks to IDHS
Rachel Meyer for the new
layout for the**

**"News You Can Use"
newsletter...**



Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Central Indiana District Five
Bryan Wolfe - District Coordinator

